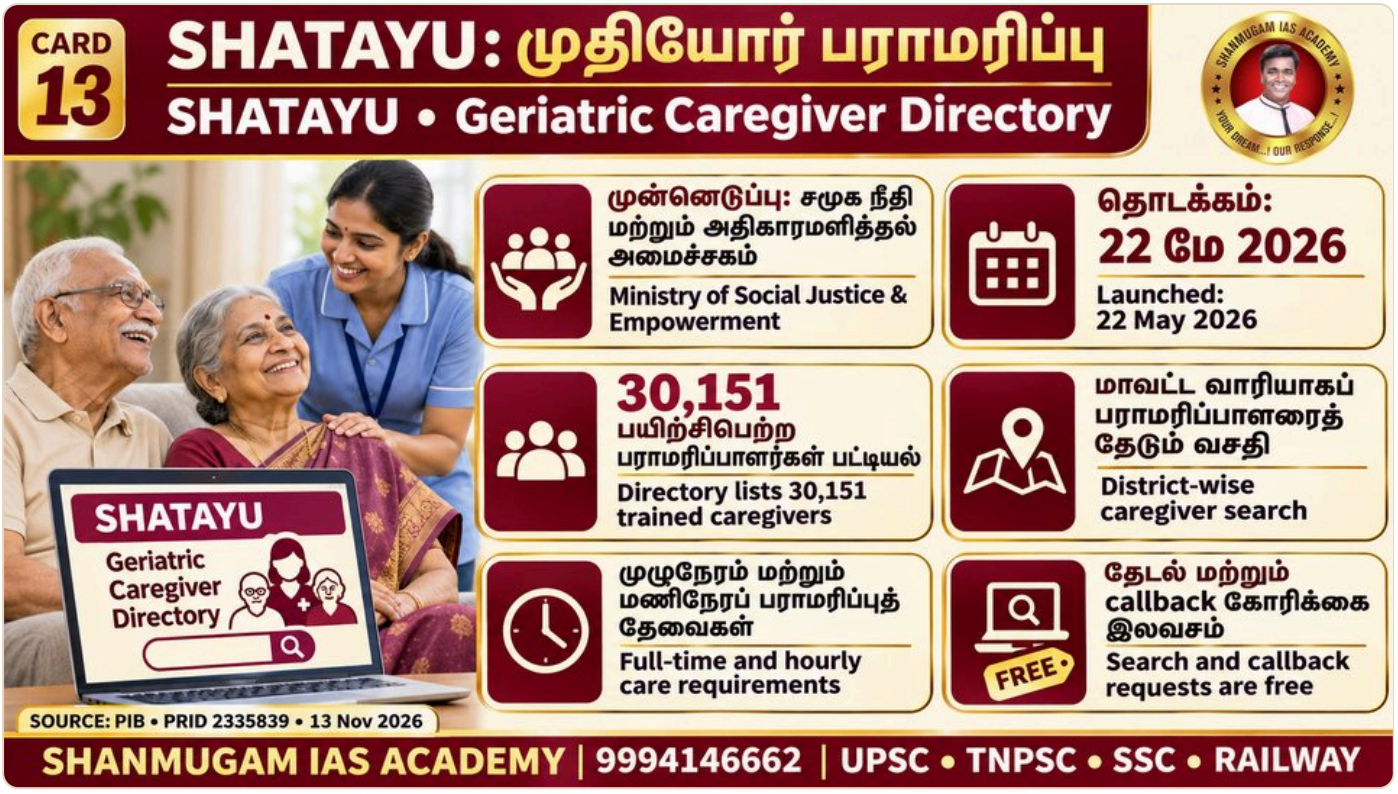
SHATAYU portal lists 30,151 trained geriatric caregivers

Topics: Health · UPSC Prelims · TNPSC · SSC · Current Affairs



News

The 'SHATAYU' national geriatric caregiver dashboard, which helps senior citizens find trained caregivers, lists 30,151 caregivers – 23,334 women and 6,817 men – the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment said on 13 November 2026 (PIB). SHATAYU (Senior Holistic Care Assistance and Training for Your Utility) was launched on 22 May 2026 in New Delhi at the national workshop 'Creating a Well-Functioning Care Economy', along with the 'JEEVAN' mobile app for senior citizens, with Union Minister Dr Virendra Kumar. Users can search caregivers by State and district; an OTP-verified 'callback request' goes to caregivers in the chosen district, for full-time or hourly care. Services include general geriatric care, post-surgical help, dementia and Alzheimer's care, physiotherapy and palliative care; searching and requests are free. Training is supported by the National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), an autonomous body of the Ministry, and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). The portal states that background and address checks must be done independently by the hiring family, and that it does not fix wages or fees. In June 2026 the Ministry acknowledged technical glitches on the dashboard, allowed caregivers trained in 2023-24 and earlier to self-register, and warned against misleading social-media posts about it. SHATAYU is part of the Ministry's Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) umbrella for senior citizens.

Key facts for the exam

Point	Details
Portal	SHATAYU – shatayu.dosje.gov.in
Full form	Senior Holistic Care Assistance and Training for Your Utility
Ministry	Social Justice and Empowerment
Launch	22 May 2026, New Delhi – with 'JEEVAN' app
Caregivers	30,151 (as on 13 Nov 2026)
Training tracks	4 – Geriatric Care Provider, Geriatric Caregiver, Wellness Therapist for the Elderly, Elderly Care Companion
Training bodies	NISD, NSDC
Elderly law	Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007

Background

- Legal protection: under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, an Indian citizen aged 60 or above is a 'senior citizen'. Children, or relatives who would inherit the property, must pay maintenance; claims are heard by a Maintenance Tribunal (Section 7) headed by an officer not below Sub-Divisional Officer (RDO) rank, which can order up to ₹10,000 a month. Abandoning a senior citizen is a punishable offence.
- Property safeguard: under Section 23, if a senior citizen transferred property on condition of being cared for and the transferee fails to do so, the Tribunal can declare the transfer void as fraudulent. In the Seventh Schedule, 'relief of the disabled and unemployable' is in the State List (Entry 9) and 'old age pensions' in the Concurrent List (Entry 24).
- Demographic shift: per the National Statistical Office's 'Elderly in India 2021', Keralam has the highest share of elderly in its population (16.5%), followed by Tamil Nadu (13.6%), Himachal Pradesh (13.1%), Punjab (12.6%) and Andhra Pradesh (12.4%); by 2031 Keralam is projected at 20.9% and Tamil Nadu at 18.2%. Rising demand for home care makes a 'care economy' of trained caregivers a source of jobs too. The UN General Assembly designated 1 October as the International Day of Older Persons in 1990.

Tamil Nadu link: Per 'Elderly in India 2021', 13.6% of Tamil Nadu's population is elderly – second only to Keralam – and the share was projected to reach 18.2% by 2031. In March 2025 a Madras High Court bench (Justices S.M. Subramaniam and K. Rajasekar) held that love and affection is an implied condition of care, so a settlement deed can be cancelled under Section 23 if children fail to look after the parent, even if the deed does not say so.

Frequently asked questions

What is this news about?

The 'SHATAYU' national geriatric caregiver dashboard, which helps senior citizens find trained caregivers, lists 30,151 caregivers – 23,334 women and 6,817 men – the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment said on 13 November 2026 (PIB).

What are the key facts to remember for the exam?

Portal: SHATAYU – shatayu.dosje.gov.in; Full form: Senior Holistic Care Assistance and Training for Your Utility; Ministry: Social Justice and Empowerment; Launch: 22 May 2026, New Delhi – with 'JEEVAN' app.

What is the background to this news?

Legal protection: under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, an Indian citizen aged 60 or above is a 'senior citizen'.

Practice questions (with answers)

1. Which autonomous institute guides the training of geriatric caregivers listed on SHATAYU?

A) NIEPA

B) NIPCCD

C) NIHFW

D) NISD

Answer: D – Explanation: NISD – National Institute of Social Defence, under the Social Justice Ministry, with NSDC. NIPCCD is under the Women & Child Ministry.

2. Under the 2007 Parents and Senior Citizens Maintenance Act, which body hears maintenance claims?

A) Lok Adalat

B) Family Court

C) Civil Court

D) Maintenance Tribunal

Answer: D – Explanation: Maintenance Tribunal – headed by an officer of Sub-Divisional Officer (RDO) rank; can order up to ₹10,000 a month; no lawyer needed.

3. As per NSO's 'Elderly in India 2021', which State has the highest share of elderly in its population?

A) Tamil Nadu

B) Keralam

C) Punjab

D) Himachal Pradesh

Answer: B – Explanation: Keralam – 16.5%; Tamil Nadu is second with 13.6%. Low fertility and longer life expectancy are the reasons.

4. Which section of the 2007 Act lets a senior citizen's property transfer be voided if the care condition is broken?

A) Section 4

B) Section 23

C) Section 7

D) Section 19

Answer: B – Explanation: Section 23 – the Madras High Court (2025) held love and affection to be an implied condition even if the deed is silent.

5. When is the UN-designated International Day of Older Persons observed every year?

A) 15 June

B) 21 August

C) 1 October

D) 10 December

Answer: C – Explanation: 1 October – designated by the UN General Assembly in 1990. 15 June is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day; 21 Aug is World Senior Citizen's Day.

Sources: PIB – MoSJE (13 Nov 2026; 22 May 2026 launch; 25 Jun 2026 clarification); shatayu.dosje.gov.in; India Code (MWPSC Act 2007); MoSPI/NSO 'Elderly in India 2021' (via PTI); Madras High Court judgment (March 2025) as reported by The Hindu/PTI. © Shanmugam IAS Academy.